

academic sector institutions, foreign language-related interest groups, business associations, industry, and heritage community organizations) shall be invited, as appropriate, to public meetings of the Council at least once a year.

(e) STAFF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director may appoint and fix the compensation of such additional personnel as the Director considers necessary to carry out the duties of the Council.

(2) DETAILS FROM OTHER AGENCIES.—Upon request of the Council, the head of any Federal agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such agency to the Council.

(3) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—With the approval of the Council, the Director may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(f) POWERS.—

(1) DELEGATION.—Any member or employee of the Council may, if authorized by the Council, take any action that the Council is authorized to take in this Act.

(2) INFORMATION.—The Council may secure directly from any Federal agency such information the Council considers necessary to carry out its responsibilities. Upon request of the Director, the head of such agency shall furnish such information to the Council.

(3) DONATIONS.—The Council may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

(4) MAIL.—The Council may use the United States mail in the same manner and under the same conditions as other Federal agencies.

(g) CONFERENCES, NEWSLETTER, AND WEBSITE.—In carrying out this Act, the Council—

(1) may arrange Federal, regional, State, and local conferences for the purpose of developing and coordinating effective programs and activities to improve foreign language education;

(2) may publish a newsletter concerning Federal, State, and local programs that are effectively meeting the foreign language needs of the nation; and

(3) shall create and maintain a website containing information on the Council and its activities, best practices on language education, and other relevant information.

(h) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Council shall prepare and transmit to the President and Congress a report that describes the activities of the Council and the efforts of the Council to improve foreign language education and training and impediments, including any statutory and regulatory restrictions, to the use of each such program.

#### SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL LANGUAGE DIRECTOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a National Language Director who shall be appointed by the President. The National Language Director shall be a nationally recognized individual with credentials and abilities across all of the sectors to be involved with creating and implementing long-term solutions to achieving national foreign language and cultural competency.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The National Language Director shall—

(1) develop and oversee the implementation of a national foreign language strategy across all sectors;

(2) establish formal relationships among the major stakeholders in meeting the needs of the Nation for improved capabilities in foreign languages and cultural understanding, including Federal, State, and local government agencies, academia, industry, labor, and heritage communities; and

(3) coordinate and lead a public information campaign that raises awareness of public and private sector careers requiring foreign language skills and cultural understanding, with the objective of increasing interest in and support for the study of foreign languages among national leaders, the business community, local officials, parents, and individuals.

(c) COMPENSATION.—The National Language Director shall be paid at a rate of pay payable for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

#### SEC. 5. ENCOURAGEMENT OF STATE INVOLVEMENT.

(a) STATE CONTACT PERSONS.—The Council shall consult with each State to provide for the designation by each State of an individual to serve as a State contact person for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information and communications received from the Council.

(b) STATE INTERAGENCY COUNCILS AND LEAD AGENCIES.—Each State is encouraged to establish a State interagency council on foreign language coordination or designate a lead agency for the State for the purpose of assuming primary responsibility for coordinating and interacting with the Council and State and local government agencies as necessary.

#### SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as necessary to carry out this Act.

### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 149—HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS, FORMER ARCHBISHOP OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 149

Whereas His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos, former archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America and spiritual leader of Greek Orthodox Christians in the Western Hemisphere from 1959 to 1996, passed away at the age of 93 on April 10, 2005, in Stamford, Connecticut;

Whereas, when Archbishop Iakovos retired at the age of 85 on July 29, 1996, the Archbishop had given 37 years of outstanding service that were distinguished by his leadership in furthering religious unity, revitalizing Christian worship, and championing human and civil rights;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos was born Demetrios A. Coucouzis on the tiny island of Imbros in the Aegean Sea to Maria and Athanasios Coucouzis on July 29, 1911;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos enrolled in the Ecumenical Patriarchal Theological School at Halki at the age of 15;

Whereas, after graduating with high honors from Halki, Archbishop Iakovos was ordained deacon in 1934, taking the ecclesiastical name Iakovos;

Whereas 5 years after his ordination, Archbishop Iakovos received an invitation to serve as archdeacon to the late Archbishop Athenagoras, the primate of North and South America, who later became Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople;

Whereas in 1940, Archbishop Iakovos was ordained to the priesthood in Lowell, Massa-

chusetts, beginning his service at St. George Church in Hartford, Connecticut, while teaching and serving as assistant dean of the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Theological School, then in Pomfret, Connecticut, and now in Brookline, Massachusetts;

Whereas in 1941, Archbishop Iakovos was named preacher at Holy Trinity Cathedral in New York City, and in the summer of 1942 served as temporary dean of St. Nicholas Church in St. Louis, Missouri;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos was appointed dean of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1942, and remained there until 1954;

Whereas in 1945, Archbishop Iakovos earned a Master of Sacred Theology Degree from Harvard University;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos became a United States citizen in 1950;

Whereas in 1954, Archbishop Iakovos was ordained Bishop of Melita by his spiritual father and mentor, Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras, for whom he served four years as personal representative of the Patriarchate to the World Council of Churches in Geneva;

Whereas on February 14, 1959, the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate elected Archbishop Iakovos to succeed Archbishop Michael as primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in the Americas;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos was enthroned April 1, 1959, at Holy Trinity Cathedral in New York City, assuming responsibility for a jurisdiction that has grown to be over 500 parishes in the United States alone;

Whereas the enthronement of Archbishop Iakovos in 1959 ushered in a new era for the Greek Orthodox Church in America, in which the Church became part of the mainstream of American religious life;

Whereas in 1959, shortly after being named archbishop, Archbishop Iakovos held a historic meeting with Pope John XXIII, becoming the first Greek Orthodox Archbishop to meet with a Roman Catholic Pope in 350 years;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos was a dynamic participant in the contemporary ecumenical movement for Christian unity, serving for nine years as President of the World Council of Churches and piloting Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Christian, and Inter-Religious dialogues;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos vigorously supported the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and had the courage to walk hand in hand with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Selma, Alabama, a historic moment for America that was captured on the cover of LIFE Magazine on March 26, 1965;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos spoke out forcefully against violations of human rights and religious freedom and, in 1974, undertook a massive campaign to assist Greek Cypriot refugees following the invasion of Cyprus by Turkish armed forces;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos was a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor, which was bestowed on him by President Carter on June 9, 1980;

Whereas in 1986, Archbishop Iakovos was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and was cited by the Academy of Athens, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and the Appeal of Conscience;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos, during his stewardship of the Greek Orthodox Church in America, became an imposing religious figure and a champion of social causes, encouraging the faithful to become involved in all aspects of American life;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos was a friend to nine Presidents, and to religious and political leaders worldwide, receiving honorary

degrees from some 40 colleges and universities;

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos presented a prayer at Presidential inaugural ceremonies in 1961, 1965, 1969, and 1972;

Whereas the Archbishop has said of his pastoral work with immigrants in New England and New York, "I lived and struggled with them to maintain the faith and culture.";

Whereas in a 1995 interview, the Archbishop said he had accomplished a major goal "to have the Orthodox Church be accepted by the family of religions in the United States"; and

Whereas Archbishop Iakovos was interred at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in New York, New York, on April 15, 2005: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) mourns the loss of Archbishop Iakovos and commends the life the Archbishop led;

(2) thanks Archbishop Iakovos for his service to the members of his church and to the people of this Nation;

(3) honors Archbishop Iakovos' commitment to the principles of equality, humanity, and peace; and

(4) recognizes that Archbishop Iakovos was a committed and caring pastor to a whole generation of Greek Americans—

(A) whose hard work, determination, and pride in their religious and cultural heritage Archbishop Iakovos embodied; and

(B) who will dearly miss the Archbishop.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 150—EXPRESSING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM MEMORIAL

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 150

Whereas section 905 of the FRIENDSHIP Act (40 U.S.C. 1003 note) authorizes the construction of a memorial to honor the victims of communism;

Whereas the construction of a Victims of Communism Memorial near the United States Capitol in the District of Columbia is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2005;

Whereas construction of the Memorial is supported by many Americans whose country of origin is, or was, a "Captive Nation", from Baltic-Americans to Vietnamese-Americans;

Whereas communism has claimed the lives of more than 100,000,000 people in less than 100 years; and

Whereas it is important for the people of the United States to honor and remember the victims of communism by supporting the construction of this memorial: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate expresses its continued support for the construction of the Victims of Communism Memorial.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 151—RECOGNIZING THE 57TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mrs. DOLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 151

Whereas in May 1948, the State of Israel was established as a sovereign and independent nation;

Whereas the United States was one of the first nations to recognize Israel, only 11 minutes after its creation;

Whereas Israel has provided the opportunity for Jews from all over the world to re-establish their ancient homeland;

Whereas Israel is home to many religious sites which are sacred to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam;

Whereas Israel provided a refuge to Jews who survived the horrors of the Holocaust and the evils committed by the Nazis which were unprecedented in human history;

Whereas the people of Israel have established a unique, pluralistic democracy which includes the freedoms cherished by the people of the United States, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of association, freedom of the press, and government by the consent of the governed;

Whereas Israel continues to serve as a shining model of democratic values by regularly holding free and fair elections, promoting the free exchange of ideas, and vigorously exercising in its Parliament, the Knesset, a democratic government that is fully representative of its citizens;

Whereas Israel has bravely defended itself from attacks repeatedly since independence;

Whereas the Government of Israel has successfully worked with the neighboring Governments of Egypt and Jordan to establish peaceful, bilateral relations;

Whereas, despite the deaths of over one thousand innocent Israelis at the hands of murderous, suicide bombers and other terrorists during the past 4 years, the people of Israel continue to seek peace with their Palestinian neighbors;

Whereas the United States and Israel enjoy a strategic partnership based on shared mutual democratic values, friendship, and respect;

Whereas the people of the United States share affinity with the people of Israel and view Israel as a strong and trusted ally; and

Whereas Israel has made significant global contributions in the fields of science, medicine, and technology: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the independence of the State of Israel as a significant event in providing refuge and a national homeland for the Jewish people;

(2) strongly supports efforts to bring peace to the Middle East, including the disengagement plan of the Israeli government, the Roadmap, and the recent Quartet decision to appoint World Bank President James Wolfensohn as Coordinator for Gaza Disengagement.

(3) commends the bipartisan commitment of all United States administrations and United States Congresses since 1948 to stand by Israel and work for its security and well-being; and

(4) extends warm congratulations and best wishes to the people of Israel as they celebrate the 57th anniversary of Israel's independence.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 35—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION SHOULD ISSUE A CLEAR AND UNAMBIGUOUS STATEMENT OF ADMISSION AND CONDEMNATION OF THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION AND ANNEXATION BY THE SOVIET UNION FROM 1940 TO 1991 OF THE BALTIC COUNTRIES OF ESTONIA, LATVIA, AND LITHUANIA

Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 35

Whereas the incorporation in 1940 of the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the Soviet Union was an act of aggression carried out against the will of sovereign people;

Whereas the United States was steadfast in its policy of not recognizing the illegal Soviet annexation of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania;

Whereas the Russian Federation is the successor state to the Soviet Union;

Whereas the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939, including its secret protocols, between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union provided the Soviet Union with the opportunity to occupy and annex Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania;

Whereas the occupation brought countless suffering to the Baltic peoples through terror, killings, and deportations to Siberian concentration camps;

Whereas the peoples of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania bravely resisted Soviet aggression and occupation;

Whereas the Government of Germany renounced its participation in the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939 and publicly apologized for the destruction and terror that Nazi Germany unleashed on the world;

Whereas, in 1989, the Congress of Peoples' Deputies of the Soviet Union denounced the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939 and its secret protocols;

Whereas President Putin recently confirmed that the statement of the Congress of Peoples' Deputies remains the view of the Russian Federation;

Whereas the illegal occupation and annexation of the Baltic countries by the Soviet Union remains unacknowledged by the Russian Federation;

Whereas a declaration of acknowledgment of the illegal occupation and annexation by the Russian Federation would lead to improved relations between the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania and the people of Russia, would form the basis for improved relations between the governments of the countries, and strengthen stability in the region;

Whereas the Russian Federation is to be commended for beginning to acknowledge grievous and regrettable incidents in their history, such as admitting complicity in the massacre of Polish soldiers in the Katyn Forest in 1940;

Whereas the truth is a powerful weapon for healing, forgiving, and reconciliation, but its absence breeds distrust, fear, and hostility; and

Whereas countries that cannot clearly admit their historical mistakes and make peace with their pasts cannot successfully build their futures: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That it is the sense